



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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Arrest made in illegal disposal incident in Jefferson Davis Parish

BATON ROUGE – A Lake Charles man was arrested today in connection with the illegal dumping of a substance that could endanger human health.

Matthew King, 49, operator of a demolition company, deposited waste building materials and solid waste into a pit on his property in Jefferson Davis Parish.

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality conducted an inspection at the property owned by Matthew King, Alfred King and Flora N. King, located in Welsh, Louisiana. Inspectors discovered a newly excavated pit, white goods and several areas of burned materials. Samples taken tested positive for Asbestos Containing Material (ACM).

King admitted to DEQ inspectors that he deposited waste building materials on the referenced property. King also admitted to DEQ Criminal Investigators that he disposed of solid waste at the referenced property. This site is not a legal disposal site.

“When companies in the demolition and waste hauling business do not abide by the law, it makes it hard for similar companies, who are doing things correctly, to compete,” said Robert Williamson, Director of DEQ’s Criminal Investigation Division. “Cases like this are really economic crimes because the waste is dumped illegally to save the cost of proper disposal.”

This case was referred for prosecution to the 31st Judicial District Attorney, Michael C. Cassidy in Jennings.

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